

NATHAN GORSUCH HOUSE

112 EAST MAIN STREET

Probably built around 1864 by one Nathan Gorsuch, no. 112 East Main Street stands out in the City, although it has certain features which keep it in the mainstream of the City's domestic buildings. These standard features - 2 sections, 3 bays - are nicely balanced with certain avant-garde features - the glowing yellow color, the wrap around classic porch, and the flat roofed rear section (rather than the gabled rear section). A slightly more frivolous connection exists between this building and others in the City - the doorbell, enframed by French Curves, is an exact copy of that found on the Fletcher House, no. 254 East Main Street.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Nathan Gorsuch House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

112 East Main Street (MD 32)

6

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Carroll

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mildred L. Hentzman et.al.

Telephone #: 848-9059

STREET & NUMBER

112 East Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21157

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

Liber #: 423

Folio #: 110

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The two-sectioned "Nathan Gorsuch" house rests elegantly on its half of lot 20 in New London (now Westminster) fronting the south side of East Main Street (Md. Route 32) about 60' from that street's intersection with Lincoln Road.

Painted a pleasant canary yellow, the house rises three full stories above its coursed fieldstone foundation. Nine bays, regularly spaced three on each floor, pierce the Flemish Bond north (entrance) facade. The entrance door, a 2-panel half-glass mid-Victorian door, is the eastern ground floor bay, with two double-hung sash windows to its west. The windows have six-over-six panes and are bordered by white wooden sills and three course gauged flat arches. Second and third floor windows are similarly treated, but are smaller (ground floor windows are slightly elongated) and have yellow wooden sills that match the wall color. All this rests below a crisp two part denticulated entablature which finishes the deep green tin gable roof.

A Doric-columned 10' wide flat roofed porch shelters the ground floor on the north and east sides of the buildings Main Street section. The east side of that section is topped by a continuation of the entablature which finishes the gable end of the roof. There is one single pane attic window within the gable; it is a broad architrave trimmed pedimented window. The rest of the wall is blind.

The flat roofed southern wing has, by virtue of its nine 8/8 windows, a glassed-in second story, which, to the south, hangs 10' over the ground floor. Otherwise on the ground floor, the wing has 9 pairs of 2/2 windows to the south, and three pairs of six-light basement windows north of the central six-panel door. The south facade of the wing was probably originally a two-tiered porch; all that remains is the western half of the second floor. The rest of the second floor is filled in, but has a pair of 4/4 windows. A board and batten wall covers the ground floor, but is pierced by an eight-light casement window. All that is exposed of the Main Street's south facade is the third floor which has three 6/6 windows, treated the same as those on the north. The entablature is retained over only the eastern window.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

CARR-401

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1850

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Proudly standing above its neighbors, and glowing in its color, no. 112 East Main is a yellow highlight on East Main Street. Although it has certain features which keep it in the mainstream of the City's domestic buildings, it is unquestionably unique. These "standard" designs - 2 sections, 3 bays - are nicely balanced with certain avant-garde features - the color, the wrap around classic porch, the flat roofed section (rather than the gabled rear section). A less integral connection exists - the doorbell, enframed by French Curves, is an exact copy of that found on the Fletcher House, no. 254 East Main Street.

Therefore, it is fitting that the first recorded owner of the lot was John Fisher, who also owned the "Fletcher House". Fisher leased the lot to Nathan Gorsuch on February 23, 1849 (Carroll County Deed Book 14, Page 297). The lease was for half the lot, 30' x 198' and ran for 92 years with annual rent of \$9.50 due each April 1. It seems likely that the house hadn't yet been built, as it was possible to redeem the rent for \$158, which is what Gorsuch did through Fisher's executors on March 21, 1864 (30/513). Presumably Gorsuch built the house before this redemption, as he sold the place to William Stansbury on the same day for \$1400 (34/92). Stansbury sold to Charles Billingslea three years later for \$1700 (34/213), who retained title, through various straw deeds (35/101, 35/259) until he sold to Abraham Huber for \$2500 on April 1, 1863 (35/315). Huber in his Last Will and Testament, left the house to Margaret Davis (Will 12/148, dated January 3, 1917), whose will (14/384) conveyed the place to Elizabeth Roberts Davis. Ms. Davis; will (19/11) appointed Ernest E. Wooden as executor; in this capacity he sold the place to the present owner, Mildred L. Heutzman, on June 27, 1967 (423/110).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being the eastern half of lot 20 of the town of New London,
later incorporated into Westminster.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

December, 1976

ORGANIZATION

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



CARR 401

192 E. Main St. Westminster

S facade

c. week 12/76



CARR 401

112 E. Main St.

Westminster

NE juvenile

C. Vach 12/76